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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. FEB 8 1948

SUBJECT Conditions in South Sinkiang under Chinese Army Administration

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PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

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1. In November 1948 the conditions in the Kashgar area, South Sinkiang, were growing rapidly worse under administration by the Chinese Army. The army appropriated any property it desired. About 50 percent of the horses, 60 percent of the donkeys, and 90 percent of the camels had been taken. Occasionally confiscated animals were returned to their owners, but this was usually not the case. Farmers, already short of hay, reported that 20 to 50 percent of their supplies were confiscated, in addition to the civil taxes. The doubling of prices during November was more the result of military appropriations than of inflation. The prices of hay, grain, meat and leather were almost prohibitive to the average local purse.
2. In the Kashgar area there were many cases of slave labor. Farmers were often beaten for refusing to tell the army where they had hidden their supplies of hay. The farmers stated repeatedly that only their fear of the USSR prevented immediate revolt. [REDACTED] comment. Scattered spontaneous outbreaks will probably occur by March 1949.)
3. There was no trade or other intercourse between the USSR and Kashgar in November 1948.

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